



Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office

THE FLAME

Emergency Services News Letter



FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS **FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS** **FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS**

AUGUST, 2007



Fire Safety Tips	2
Events/ Deadlines	2
Fire Department Inspections	3
Frontier Energy Safety Information	4
Fire/Rescue Budgets Approved	5
Fire & Rescue Assoc. Officers	5
County Ranger on Western Fires	6
NWS - Drought Information	7
No! Not Bats or Vampires	8
Forbush VFD News	9
SAFER Grant	10

Yadkin County Vol. Fire & Rescue Assoc. Takes Delivery of New Mobile Air Unit

The Yadkin County Fire & Rescue Association has purchased a new Mobile Air Unit and it was placed into service on July 26th. The truck is a 2006 Ford 650 Super Duty with a GVWR of 26,000 lbs. The weight with the equipment is around 17,885 lbs. The Air System was provided by Safe Air Systems in Randleman, NC. The breathing air system is a 6000 psig 13.0 scfm system. The compressor is driven by an electric motor from an on-board PTO generator or can be connected to a building electrical service with the correct wiring. The storage system has (12) 6000 psig DOT bottles and a 2 bank fill station with a hose reel. The truck is equipped with (4) scene lights. According to President Donald Hawks, the radio and warning lights have been installed and they have ordered an onboard mini air compressor and battery charger for the unit. Artwork pricing for the truck is being completed and will be presented at the next meeting. President Hawks would like to thank everyone who has helped with the new unit.



**“Fire
is
Deadly”**

This is Fire!



Every day Americans experience the horror of fire. But most people don't understand fire. Only when we know the true nature of fire can we prepare ourselves and our families. Each year more than 4,000 Americans die and approximately 25,000 are injured in fires, many of which could be prevented.

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), believes that fire deaths can be reduced by teaching people the basic facts about fire.

Fire is Deadly! What you can't see can kill you. Deadly carbon monoxide will only put you into a deeper slumber if you're asleep. A working smoke detector may be your only chance of waking to survival!

Source: US Fire Administration

NC Forest Service Burning Permits



Get Your Burning Permits Online
www.dfr.state.nc.us



Upcoming Events / Deadlines

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Fire Chief's Association Meeting - Arlington VFD | October 3, 2007 |
| • 1st Responder Committee Meeting - Yadkin Campus SCC | October 17, 2007 |
| • Fire & Rescue Association Meeting - Lone Hickory VFD | October 18, 2007 |
| • Local Emergency Planning Committee - Yadkinville VFD | November 1, 2007 |

Fire Departments Scheduled for State Inspection

The NC Department of Insurance, Office of State Fire Marshal will be in Yadkin County on September 17-18 and October 1-2, 2007 to conduct fire department inspections for the six mile insurance districts. The NC Department of Insurance will now allow fire departments to extend their insurance rating districts from five miles up to six miles. Homeowners in this extended area would be eligible for reduced insurance premiums. The following items had to be completed prior to scheduling the inspection.

The process of extending a fire insurance district from 5 miles to 6 miles is possible only if the authority having jurisdiction has given their approval. (i.e. Board of Directors, Mayors, County Board of Commissioners.)

A map and written description of entire district must be completed and mailed to the NC Department of Insurance, OSFM before taking it to the County Board for their approval. This will assure that there are no overlaps with existing districts.

Upon completion of the Review from the OSFM, the map and description will then be sent back to the local Fire Marshal's Office (or designee), where it then shall be presented to the County Commissioners for their approval, as set forth in General Statute 153A-233.

The extending of boundaries beyond the 5-mile requires the affected Fire Department to do several additional things in their response to structure fires. These additional things are as follows:

- ⇒ Requires the County to develop written and establish automatic aid protocols.
- ⇒ These protocols shall be maintained at the county communication center and will be used on all alarms involving reported structure fires within the entire insurance district.
- ⇒ Only those departments that extend from the 5 to 6 miles shall adhere to the new automatic aid protocols.
- ⇒ The fire department wishing to extend their insurance district to 6 miles must enter into a written contract with the adjoining districts specifying that "a piece of fire apparatus" capable of carrying a minimum of 1,000 gallons of water will be dispatched simultaneously with the department whose district the incident is occurring within.

Note that the additional coverage area outside the five-mile district will only be classified as a 9S classification. This applies to all fire insurance districts in North Carolina today.

The governing body of all the participating fire departments must sign this contract, and a copy shall be kept on file at the County Fire Marshal's Office and the N.C. Dept. of Insurance, OSFM in Raleigh.



FRONTIER ENERGY

FRONTIER ENERGY IS DEDICATED TO PROVIDING SAFE AND RELIABLE ENERGY. PLEASE FOLLOW THESE PRACTICAL RULES FOR USING NATURAL GAS WISELY.

- Building a deck? Planting a tree? Installing a mailbox? 811 is the new number you should call before you begin any outdoor digging project. 811 is the new national FCC-designated number that quickly and easily begins the process of getting your underground utility lines marked for free. When you call 811, The North Carolina One Call Center will notify your local utility companies and they will mark the approximate location of your underground utility lines for free. Don't assume you know what's below. Protect yourself and those around you – Call 811 every time.
- If you notice a slight gas odor, check your pilot lights. Natural gas is odorless, but we've added an unpleasant smell for your protection and detection. The faint odor of natural gas near an appliance simply may mean the pilot light has gone out. Contact your Service Technician should you need assistance.
- If the odor is strong and persistent, leave the premises immediately. **DO NOT** light a match, switch on or off anything electrical or use the telephone. Go to the nearest telephone and call Frontier Energy, day or night, at 800-537-2545 or 336-526-2690. Our Technician will respond and perform a thorough inspection.

Frontier Energy.....Serving Your Community
1927 N. Bridge St. • Elkin NC 28621
336-526-2690 or 800-537-2545



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Common Ground Alliance



U.S. Department
of Transportation



American Road & Builders
Builders



JOHN DEERE

TRAVELERS

**ALWAYS CALL
BEFORE YOU DIG**



Fire Department 2007-2008 Budgets Approved

Fire Department	Budget	Fire Tax Rate
Forbush	\$193,392.00	5 3/4 cents
Yadkinville	\$495,091.53	6 1/2 cents
Boonville	\$176,750.00	6 3/4 cents
East Bend	\$160,025.00	6 3/4 cents
Fall Creek	\$137,760.00	6 cents
Arlington	\$149,381.22	7 3/4 cents
West Yadkin	\$205,614.10	8 3/4 cents
Courtney	\$177,881.00	7 1/2 cents
Buck Shoals	\$71,000.00	6 cents
Lone Hickory	\$308,278.79	7 1/2 cents

Yadkin County Vol. Fire & Rescue Association 2007-2008 Officers

Donald Hawks
President

Dale Potts
Secretary

Larry Matthews
Chaplin

Patrick Long
Vice - President

Neil Trivette
Treasurer



County Ranger on Western Fire Assignment

During the last 3 weeks in July (18 days), John Kessler, County Ranger was on his 4th western fire assignment. He was assigned as a squad boss and a faller on the Windy Ridge Complex (400 acres) in NE Washington & the Battle Creek Complex (60,000 acres) in NE Oregon. After being flown in to Oregon the 20 man crew traveled 2500 miles on a school bus to and from each fire. John said it was a great trip where they mainly spent 14-16 hr days mopping up, holding the line, and setting up hose lays and pumping operations.

Most of their off time was spent at the ICP where catering and showers were nice, but 4 days were spent in a spike camp with no showers and meals were served out of a bucket which was air lifted in from the ICP.

Some of their crew were very fortunate to only sustain minor injuries such as; bee stings, sore ankles and knees and one burned from a stump hole collapse. John had already been to these states on previous assignments, so he didn't get to travel to any new states. John stated "Some of the most interesting things I got to see on my trip was the beautiful countryside including several snow capped mountains over 9,000 ft., a bear, rattlesnake, porcupine, Hells Canyon (which is the deepest canyon in North America 1.5 miles deep and 10 miles wide) and the Snake & Columbia Rivers. The weirdest part of the trip was the sun rose at 4:00 am and didn't set till 10:00 pm due to being so far north". John said, in all it was a great trip and would encourage any firefighter that feels capable and has the time to volunteer to take one of these trips because our assistance is greatly appreciated out there and usually all expenses are paid.



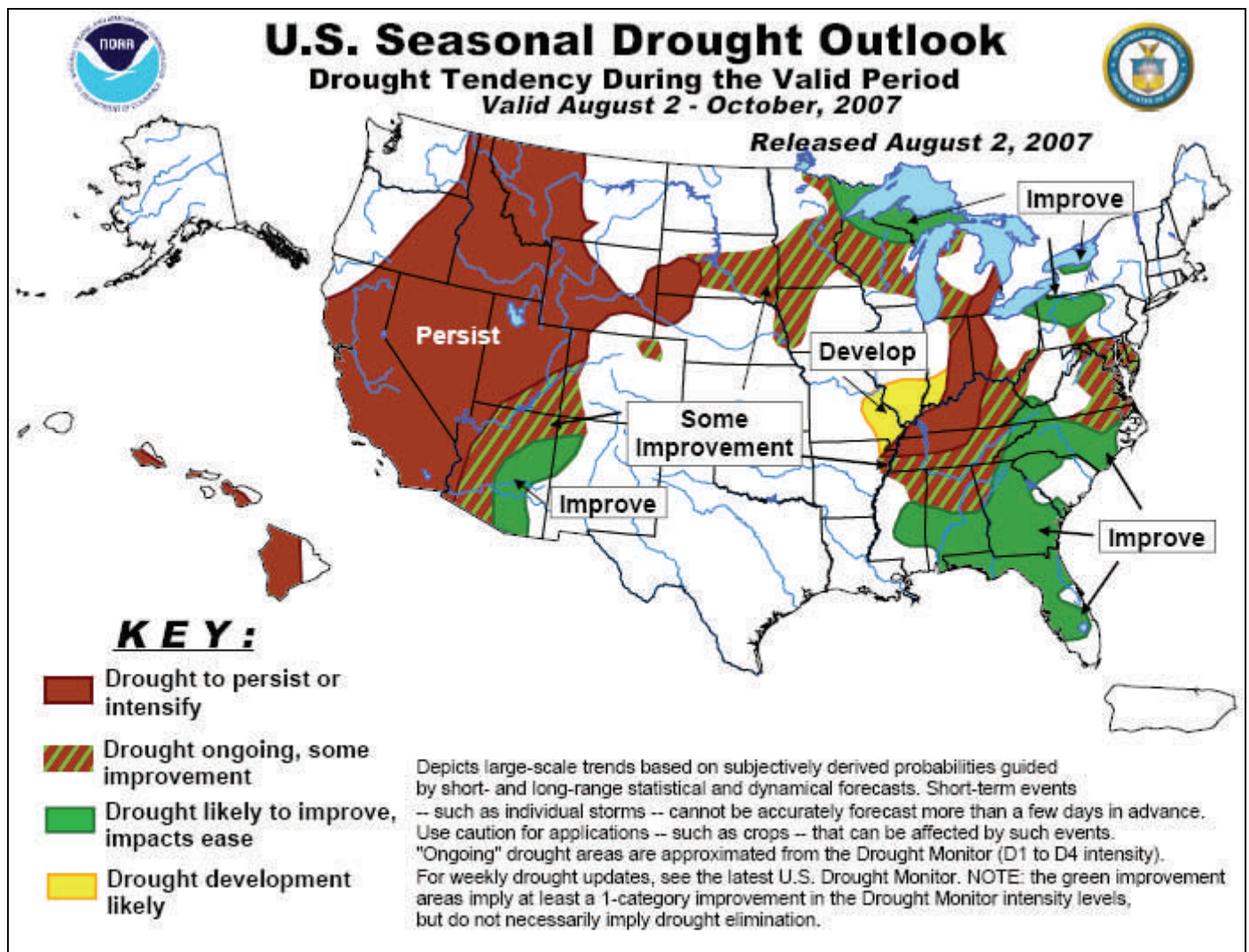
Yadkin County Drought Information

Submitted By: Phil Hysell, National Weather Service

The latest U.S. Drought Monitor map released August 2nd, 2007 still shows Yadkin County under a D1, or moderate intensity, drought. This, despite the fact, that much needed rainfall did fall across Yadkin County in the month of July. The cooperative observer for the National Weather Service in Yadkin County is located 6 miles east of Yadkinville. At this location, 6.32 inches of rain was measured in July which was the first month that the monthly precipitation total was above the average monthly total since January 2007. During a five month stretch from February through June, precipitation totals in Yadkin County were nearly 8 inches below average.

The long range outlook suggests that the drought will likely improve, but not until the fall, as temperatures will likely be above normal during much of August as a ridge of high pressure continues to dominate the weather across the Piedmont of North Carolina.

To view the U.S. Drought Monitor map, visit: www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov





No! Its Not Bats or Vampires

Donnie Martin, EMT-P Supervisor



Ok, so it is not quite Halloween and the little vampires are not out yet. But it is the middle of summer and we do indeed have some blood suckers surrounding us on a daily basis.

Spring, summer and fall bring out the ticks and these little fellows just love to put the bite on you and your pets. Most of the bites in this area are from the dog tick. They attach and feed for a couple of days before being found and pulled off.

The bite is painless and most of the bites are uncomplicated and do not transmit disease. They may cause a little red spot around the bite which is normal as well as some itching and occasionally a small hard spot may form which is a foreign body reaction. Mostly the reactions are more psychological than anything serious. Everyone worries about Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever or Lime Disease and some have heard about tick paralysis as well as other serious tick borne diseases. In fact ticks are second to mosquitoes as disease vectors.

These are certainly illnesses' to be concerned about. They can be very dangerous and even fatal if not treated promptly. But for the most part people are bitten without any serious complications. To reduce the potential for disease transmissions remove the tick as soon as it is discovered. We all have heard of different ways to remove the tick some of which are pretty drastic. Burning the tick with a match can be dangerous. They may bury in a little deeper and put more toxins in your body before dying. Burns are quite common and getting the remains of the tick out can be a problem. Putting Vaseline, lard or any other substance over it is not the best thing either.

Pulling the tick off is the best most effective way of removal. It is quick and gets the entire tick 99% of the time. If you see that the head is still attached don't panic, just pull it out. Sometimes it may be necessary to have it surgically removed. The mouth parts do not contribute to disease transmission. There are commercially available forceps that you can buy and regular tweezers work but most of us use the tried and true method. Use your fingers to grab it and pull it out using a steady pull. You should use a tissue or cloth to grab the tick, but if you don't always be sure to wash your hands after removal. Wash the bite area with soap and water or any antiseptic

If you should have a fever, chills or just don't feel well after finding a tick, you should seek medical attention. Any local infection at the bite site can be treated easily and if necessary treatment for any of the tick related diseases can be started.



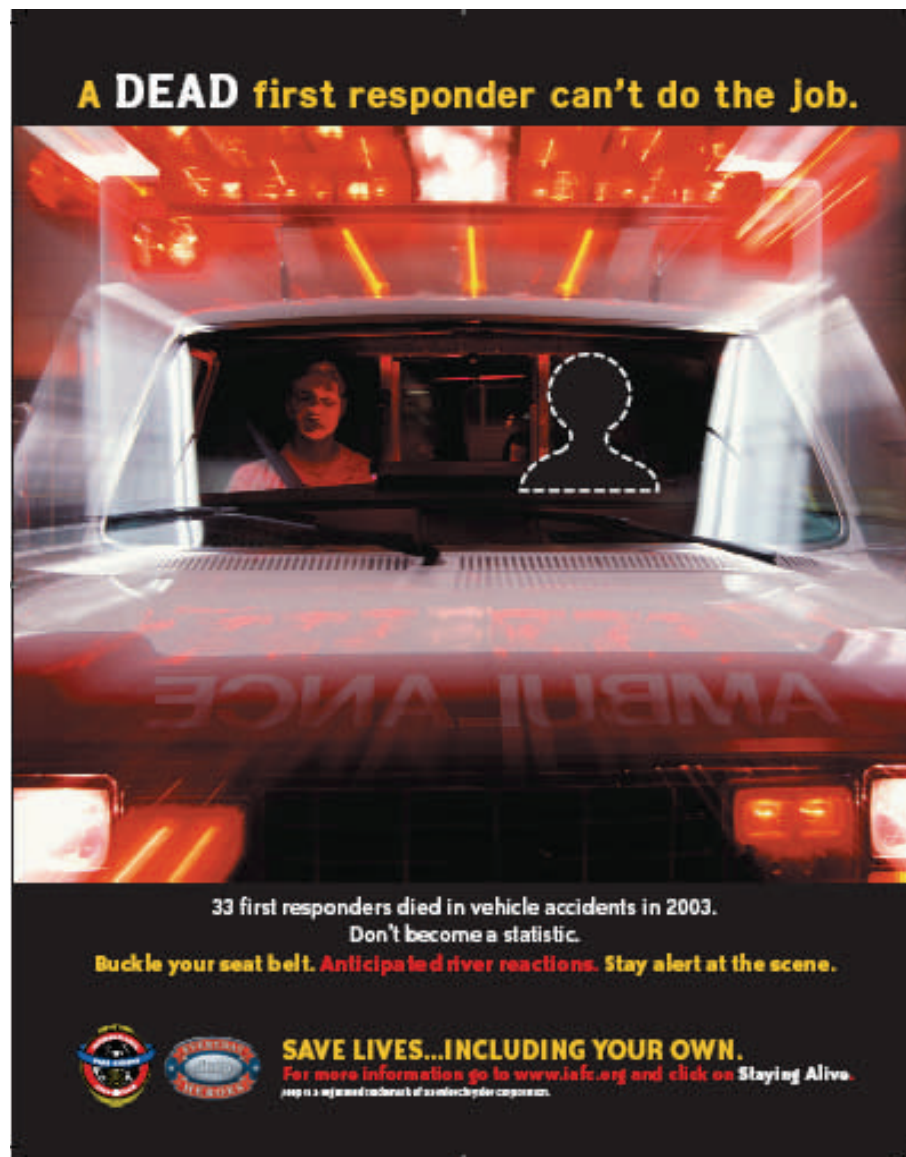
Ticks are not the only bloodsuckers we have to deal with. Mosquitoes, deer flies, black flies, stable flies, sand flies, lice and fleas all like to grab a quick lunch at our expense. Mosquitoes have the potential of causing serious diseases like Malaria, Dengue Fever and West Nile virus. As with any bite a local reaction is possible with red spots and itching is common. Occasionally these bites can cause cellulitis and can be quite uncomfortable. In case of infection see your doctor. The bite should be cleaned and topical antihistamines and cortisone creams can be used to ease itching and swelling. There are several of these products available, as well as cool compresses and ice packs. If you develop a fever, muscle pain, joint pain, rash and flu like symptoms you should seek medical attention as soon as possible.

These little critters can cause us problems. Mostly by just aggravating us to death but they do harbor some serious diseases. There are several products on the market to help prevent being bitten. Wear long sleeve shirts and pants at night when mosquitoes are most active. Check for ticks twice a day. Prompt removal is important in preventing disease transmission. Have antihistamines on hand as well as cortisone creams. If you have a history of allergic reaction make sure that you have your Epi Kit and make sure that both you and those with you know how to use it.



Enjoy the summer by camping, hiking, fishing or whatever activity you like but keep in mind that you are not alone. They are watching you!

If you have a question or would like info on a topic, email me at dmartin@yadkincountync.gov subject; mud medicine.



Forbush Fire Department

Submitted By: Dale Couch

HOT NEWS

/// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS /// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS /// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS ///

As of August 1, 2007 the part time paid program has been underway for 2 weeks. We would like to recognize those that have been hired to assist us with this program. Currently we have the following part time employees: Barry McLean, Alton Ring and Jody Vestal. These employees are working from 8-5 Monday thru Friday. We will be accepting applications for 2-3 more part time employees in the near future, and we are always accepting applications for Volunteer Firefighters. After all we couldn't make it without you!!!!

Department of Homeland Security Opens Application Period For Staffing For Adequate Fire And Emergency Services (SAFER) Grants

On July 30, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, the Department of Homeland Security began accepting applications for the SAFER Grant. The deadline for receipt of the SAFER Grant applications will be 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on August 31, 2007.

Eligible applicants for SAFER Grants include fire departments (for the hiring of firefighters) and state or local organizations as well as volunteer and combination fire departments (for volunteer recruitment and retention grants). Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the SAFER Program Guidance, and utilize all other assistance materials available on the AFG Website.

The applications are automated and will be accessible from the website for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program at www.firegrantsupport.com.

The SAFER Grants are administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Source: Department of Homeland Security

NEWS LETTER INFORMATION

Submit news letter information to Eddie Weatherman
eweatherman@yadkincountync.gov

To receive a copy of the news letter, send email request.

Yadkin County Fire Marshal's Office

P. O. Box 1002
213 East Elm Street
Yadkinville, NC 27055
Phone: 336-679-4231
Fax: 336-679-2443
E-mail: eweatherman@yadkincountync.gov

